GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1985
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2003
DELHI METRO RAIL PROJECT
AKHILESH SINGH

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the labourers working under Delhi Metro Rail Project are being exploited due to under payment of their dues as reported in the Rashtriya Sahara dated January 21,2003;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the number labourers and hours for which they are engaged for work at present and the remuneration being paid to them under the DMR Project; and

(d) the persons responsible for exploitation of labourers and the action taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the labourers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT & POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKR)

(a): No, Sir.

(b): The news report states that labourers engaged for construction of Delhi Metro are not being paid minimum wages, are being made to work upto 10 hours per day instead of 8 hours and that facilities such as First Aid do not exist at work sites.

Labour Inspectors from the office of Regional Labour Commissioner carry out surprise inspections to check the wages being paid to labourers, their working hours and availability of facilities such as First Aid at work sites. No complaint in regard to any of these items has so far been received by DMRC from the Labour Inspectors.

(c): Implementation of Delhi Metro Project is being done through the agency of contractors and DMRC itself has not engaged any labourers for this purpose.

Number of labourers engaged by contractors at present is 9319.

The labourers work in shifts of eight hours per day for which minimum daily wages being paid to them by the contractors are as fixed by the Delhi Government.

(d): Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.